

Can X-Ray Fluorescence Analysis be Used to Identify Asphalt Binders?

Federal Highway Administration
Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center (TFHRC)
McLean, VA

Terry Arnold, FHWA
Susan Needham, SES Group & Associates
Anant Shastry, ESC & Associates

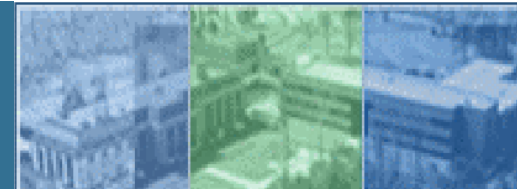
Petersen Asphalt Conference
and P3 Symposium 2010





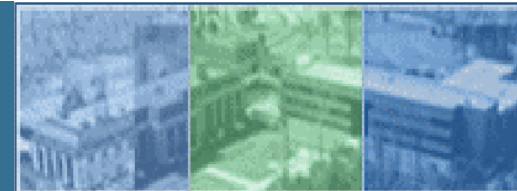
**Is this Binder What We Think It Is?
Can XRF help?**





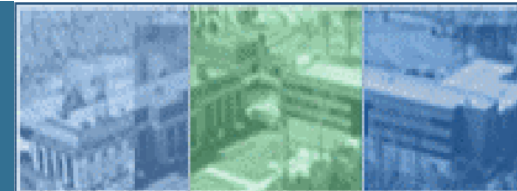
X-Ray Fluorescence
is a simple technique for the
quantitative analysis of elements,
typically from Sodium to Uranium in
the Periodic Table.





**X-Ray Fluorescence
is a simple technique for the
quantitative analysis of elements,
typically from Sodium to Uranium in
the Periodic Table.**



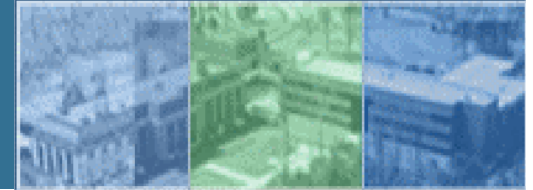


XRF Spectroscopy Can Detect:

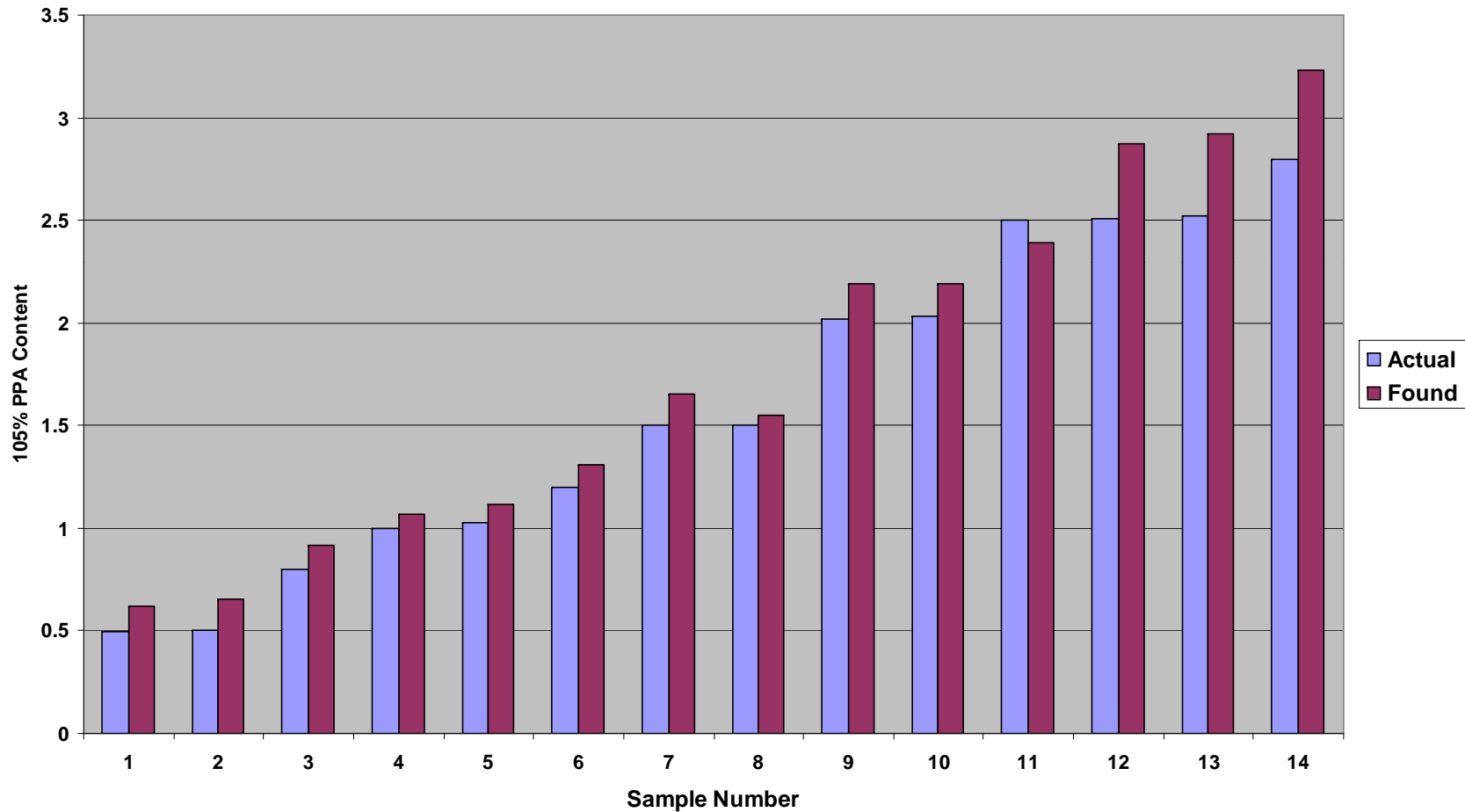
- ❖ Polyphosphoric Acid (PPA)
- ❖ Recycled Engine Oil Bottoms (REOB)
- ❖ Crumb Rubber Modified (CRM)
- ❖ Among Other Things

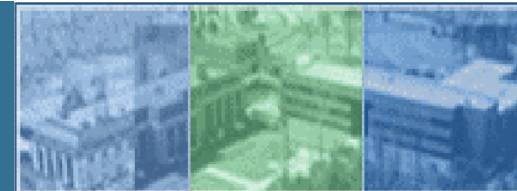


TURNER-FAIRBANK HIGHWAY RESEARCH CENTER

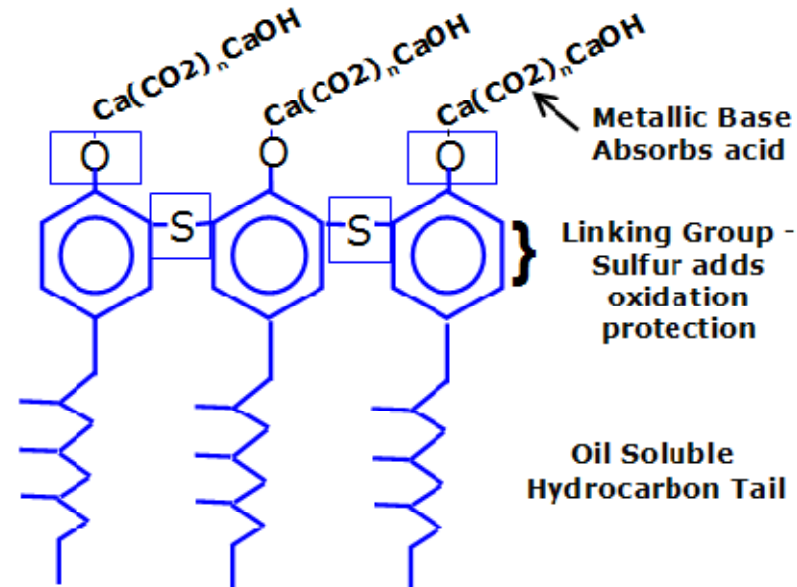
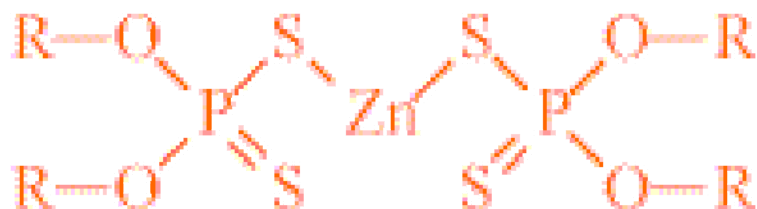


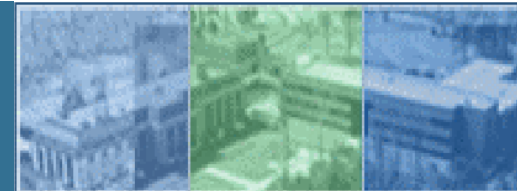
XRF Analysis of PPA Modified Asphalt



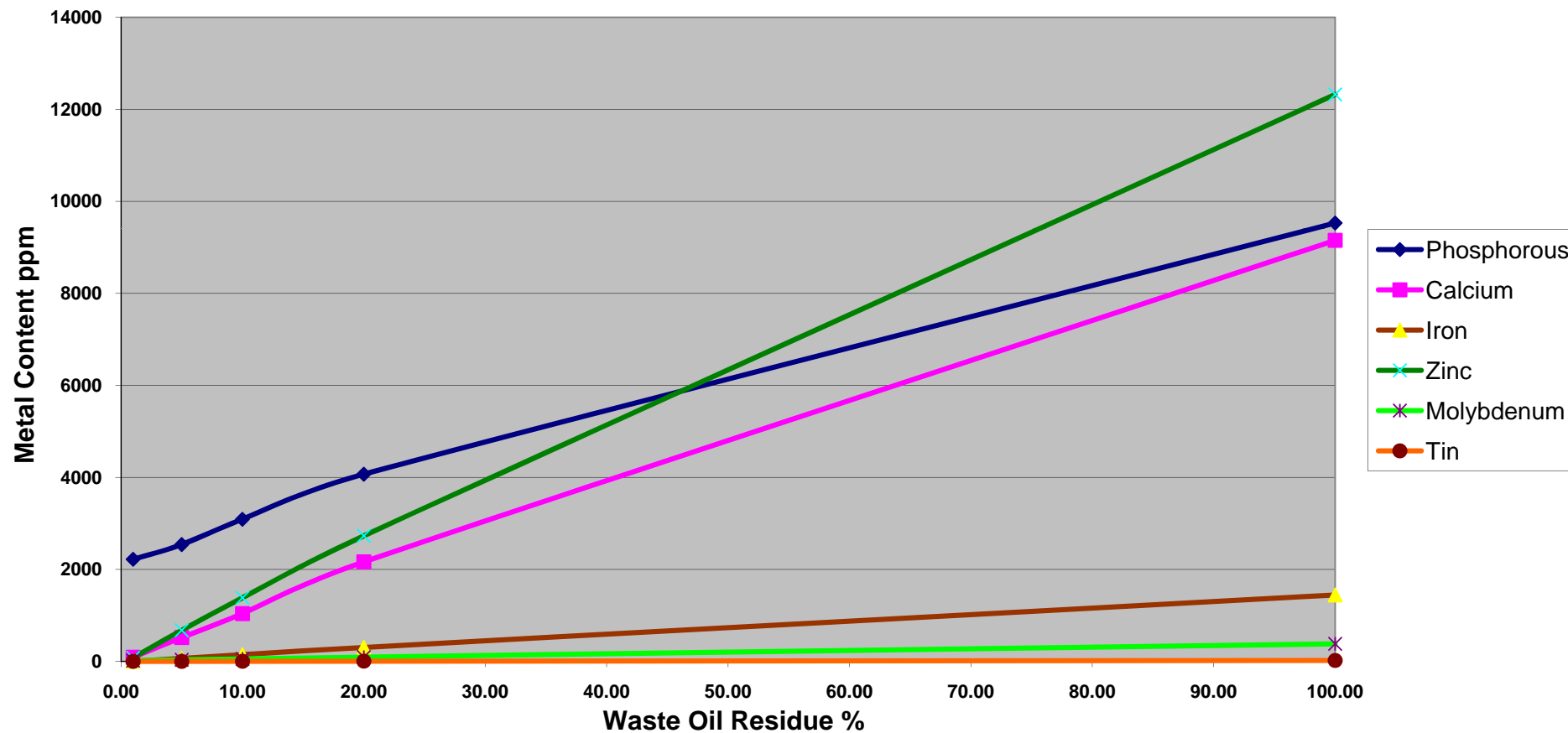


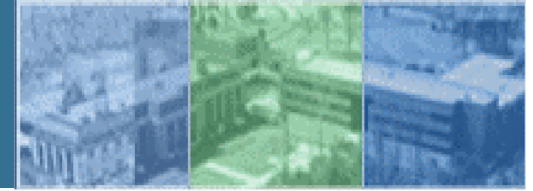
Lubricating Oil Additives Contain: Zinc, Phosphorous, Calcium





Detection of Recycled Engine Oil Bottoms in Asphalt Binders

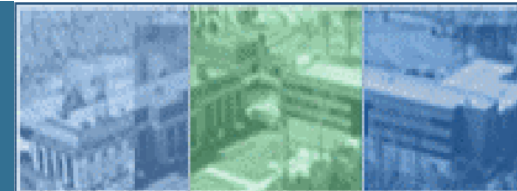




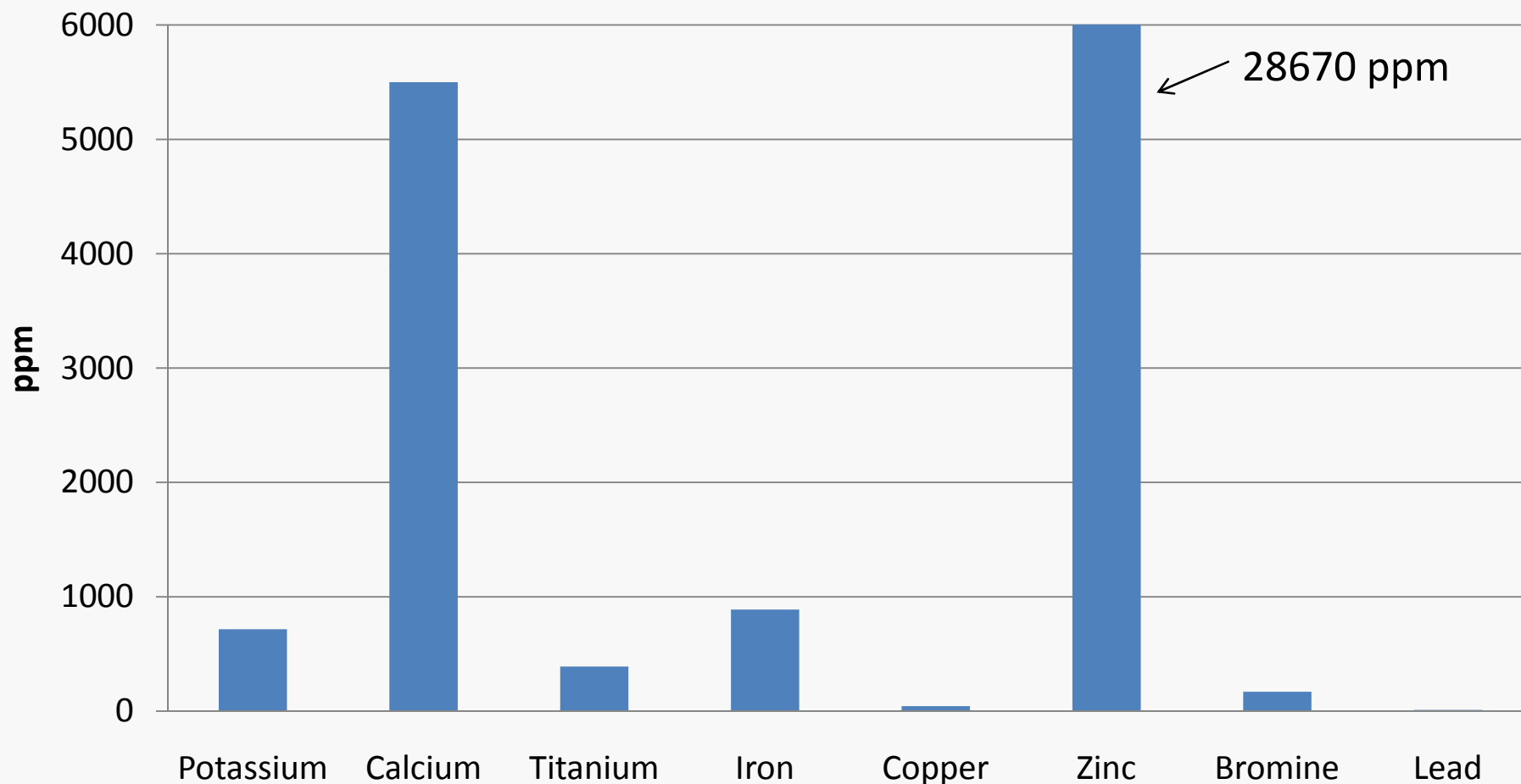
Crumb Rubber Modified Asphalt

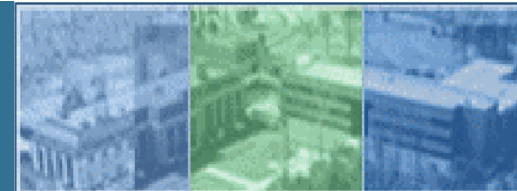
- The main activator used to assist in the Vulcanization of Rubber is Zinc (Zn)
- Crumb Rubber also contains:
 - Calcium (Ca)
 - Iron (Fe)
 - Copper (Cu)
 - Lead (Pb)
 - Potassium (K)
 - Titanium (Sn)
 - Bromine (Br)





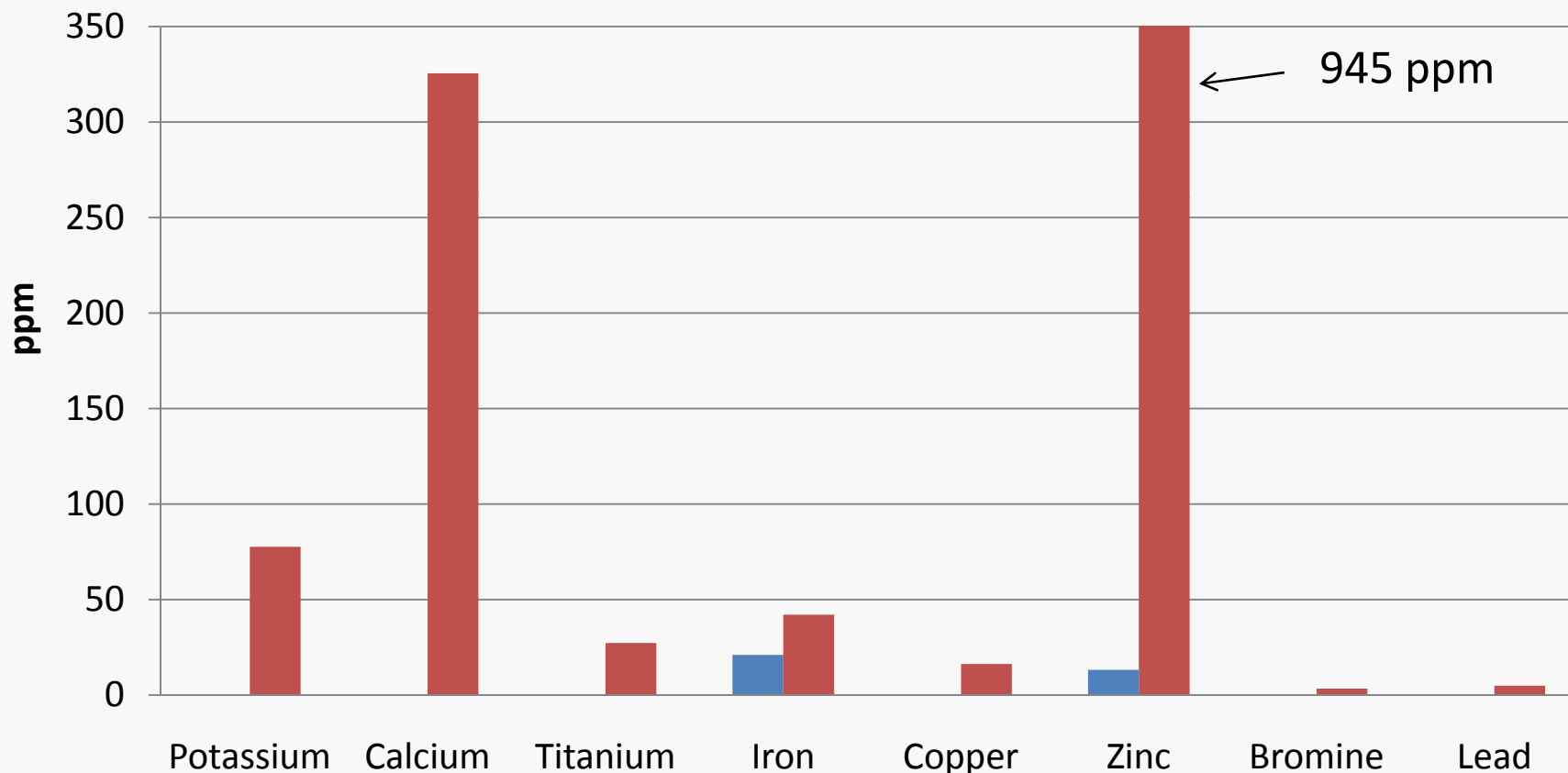
Crumb Rubber

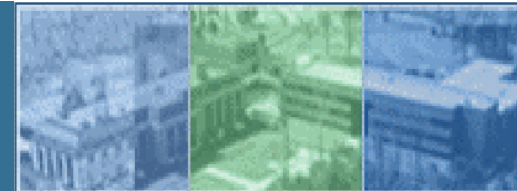




Terminal Blend Crumb Rubber Asphalt

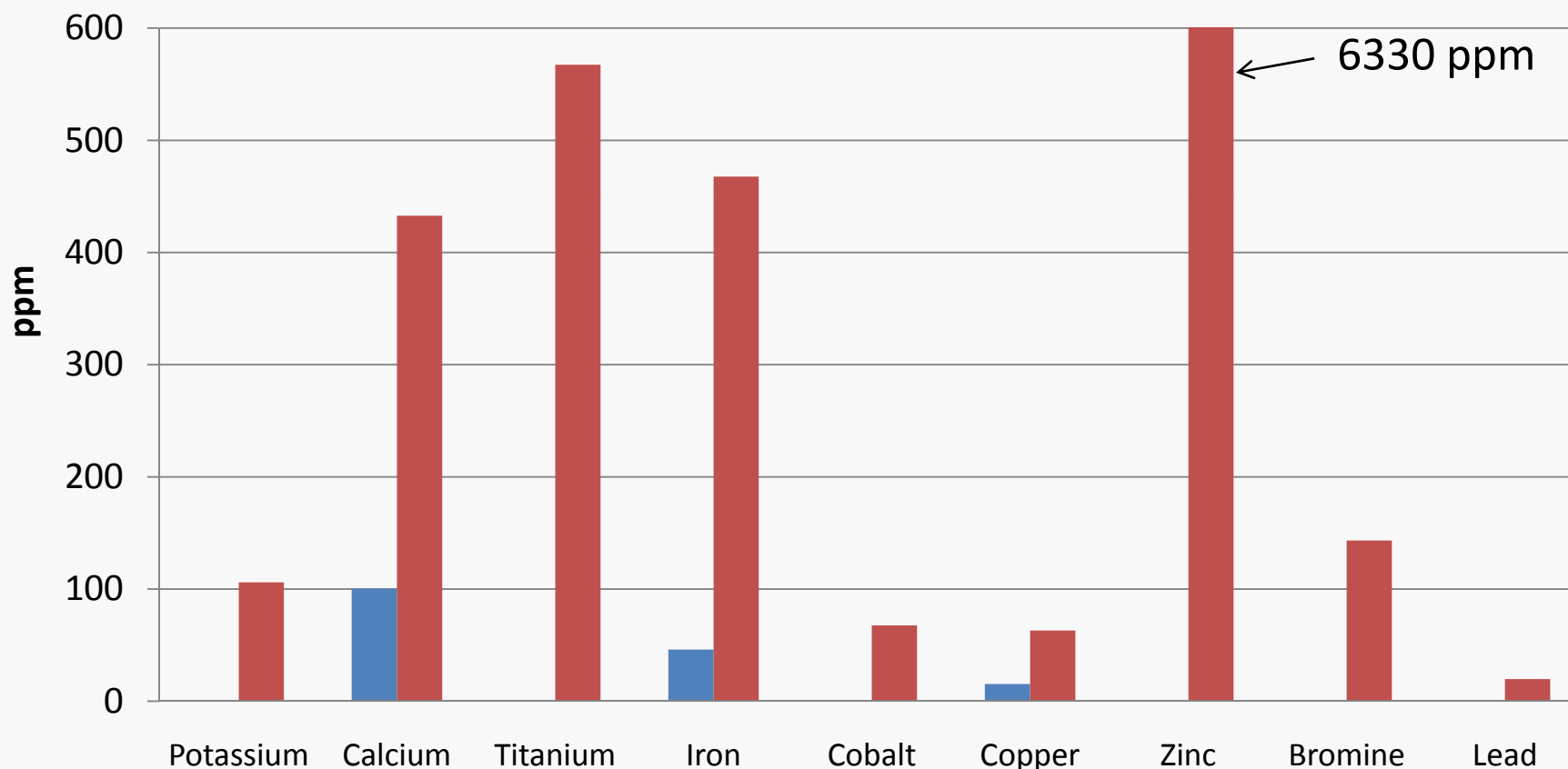
■ Pre-Modification ■ After Modification with CRM

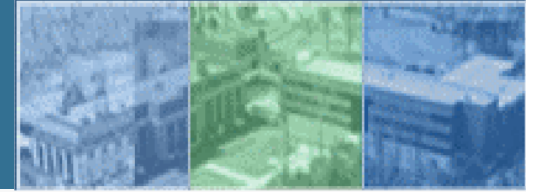




Arizona Crumb Rubber Asphalt

■ Pre-Modification ■ After Modification with CRM





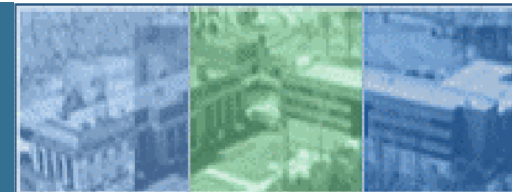
Can XRF help with Forensic Analysis?

Is the asphalt in the pavement the same as the binder the lab tested?

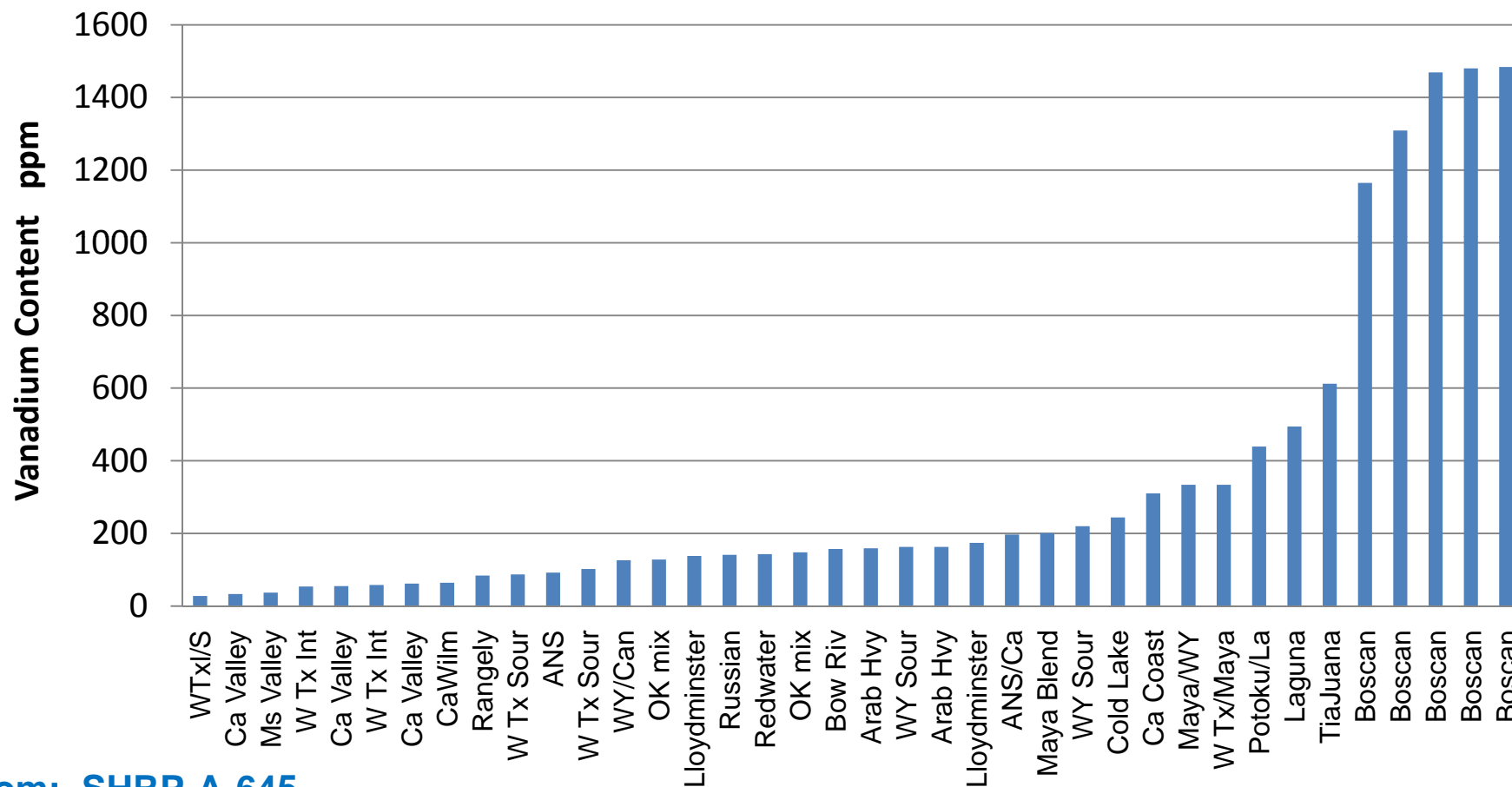
How would you know?



TURNER-FAIRBANK HIGHWAY RESEARCH CENTER



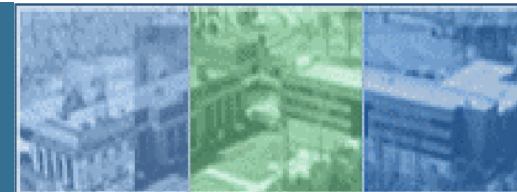
Vanadium Levels in SHRP Core Asphalts by Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) Emission Spectrometry



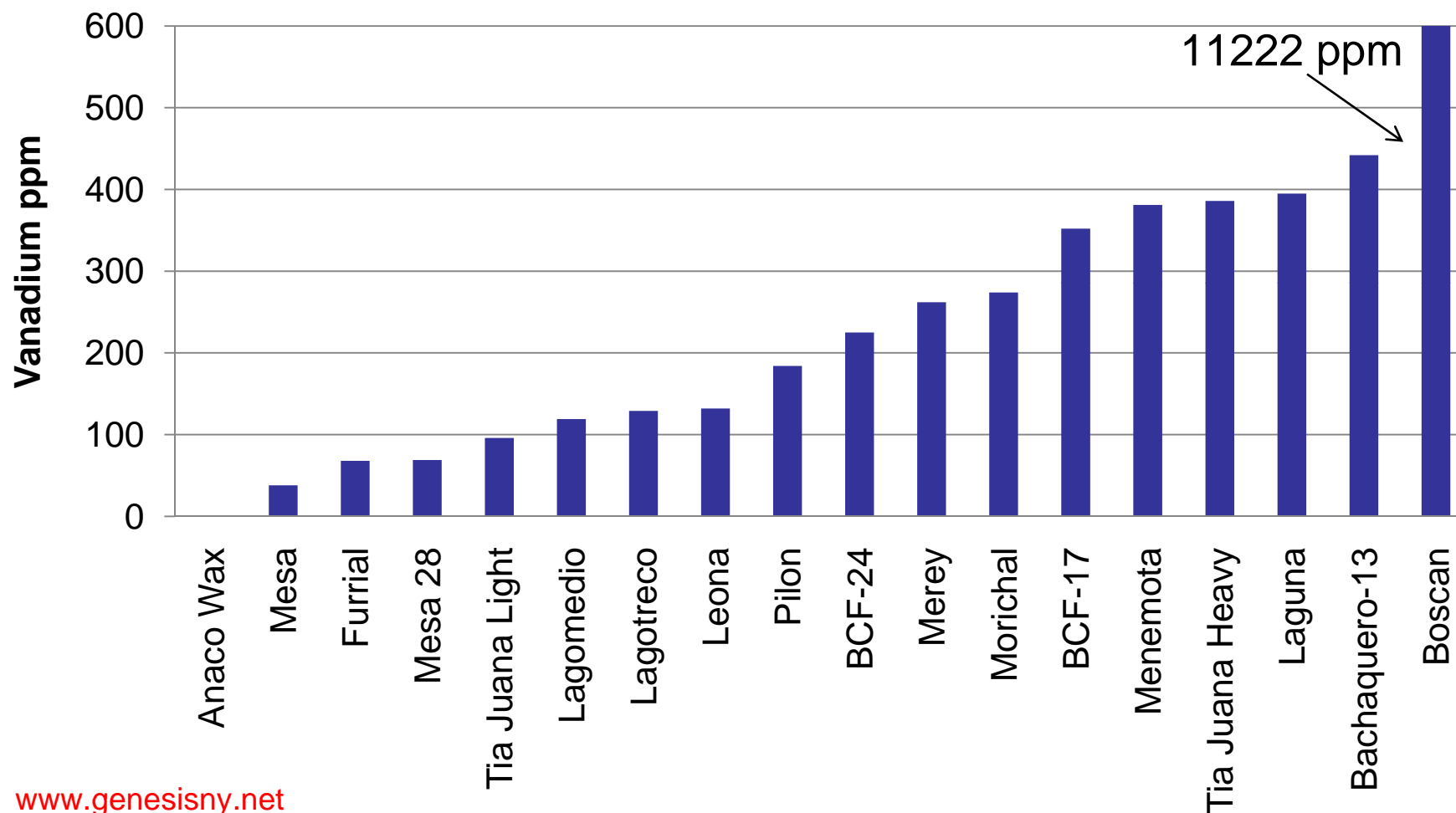
From: SHRP-A-645



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



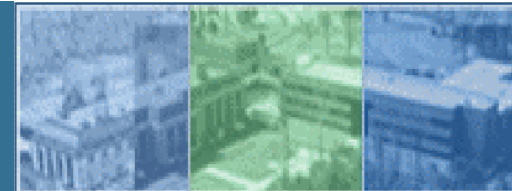
Vanadium Levels in Venezuela Crude



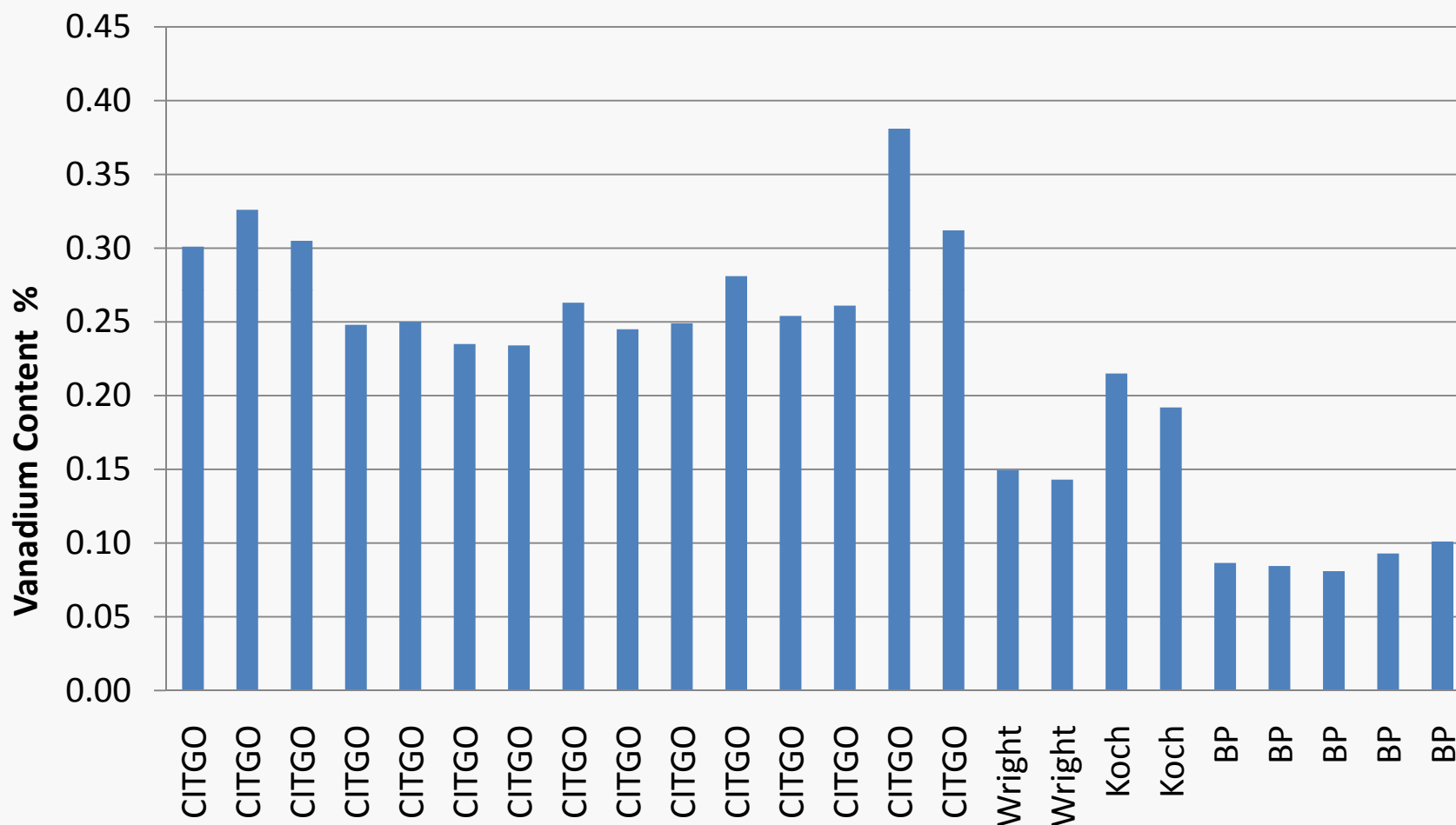
www.genesisny.net

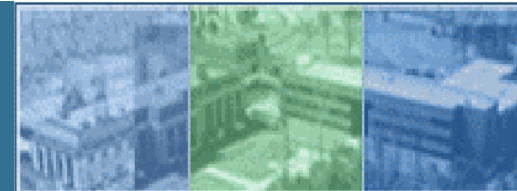


TURNER-FAIRBANK HIGHWAY RESEARCH CENTER

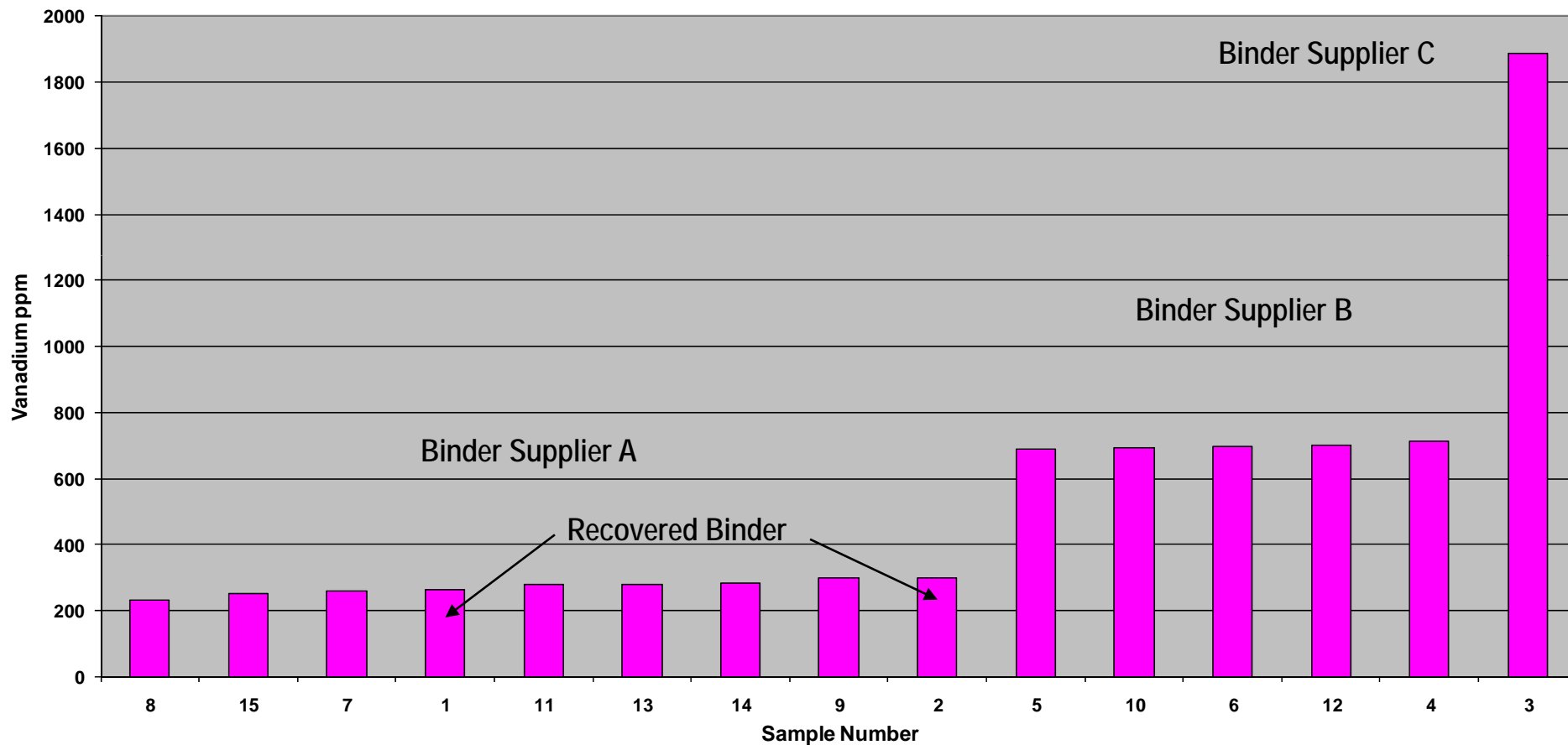


Vanadium Levels in ALF Lanes

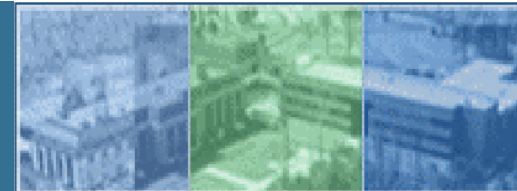




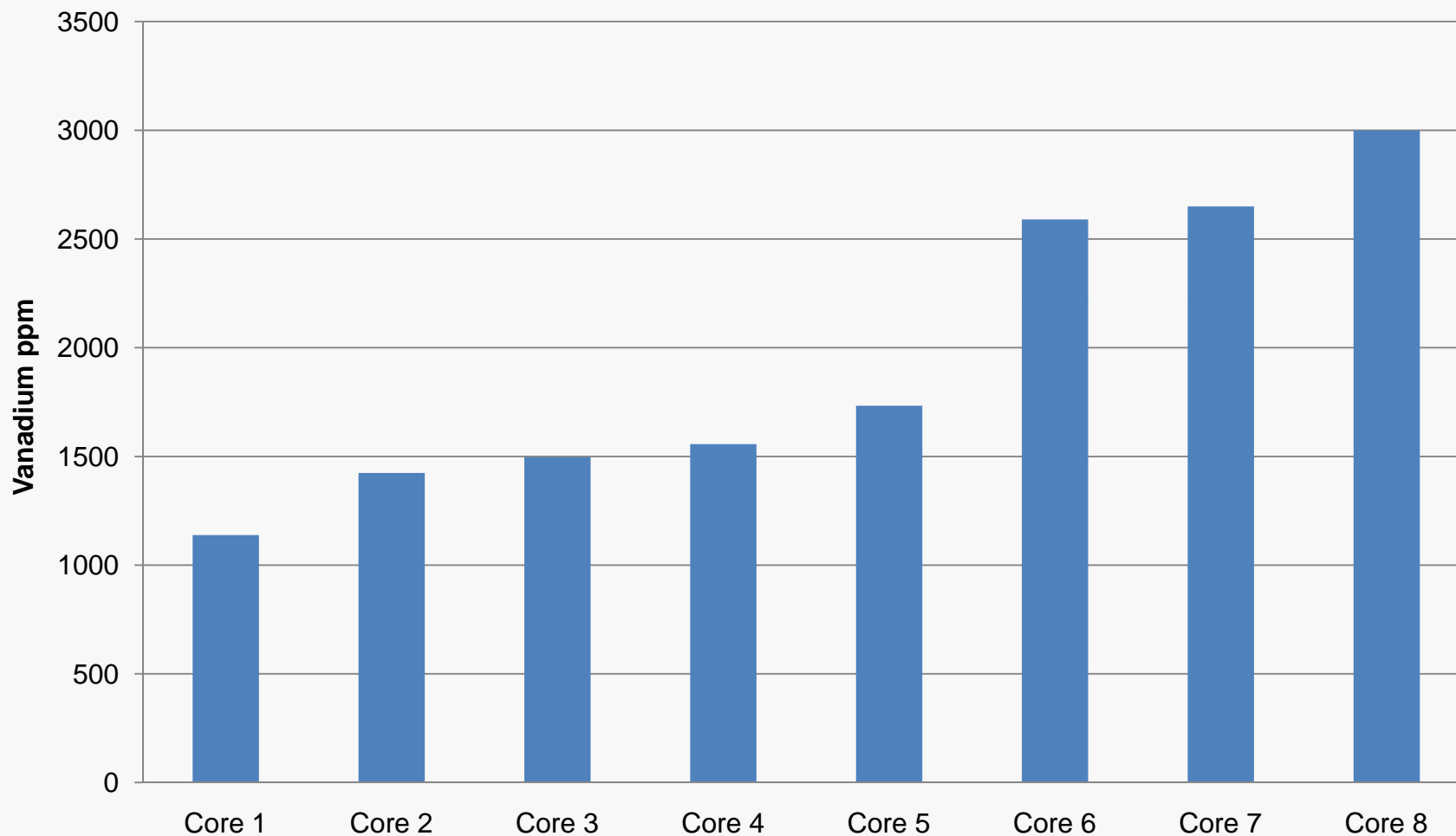
Vanadium Content of Binders - Forensic Study



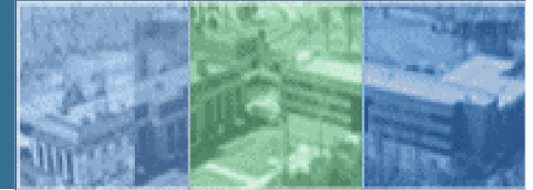
TURNER-FAIRBANK HIGHWAY RESEARCH CENTER



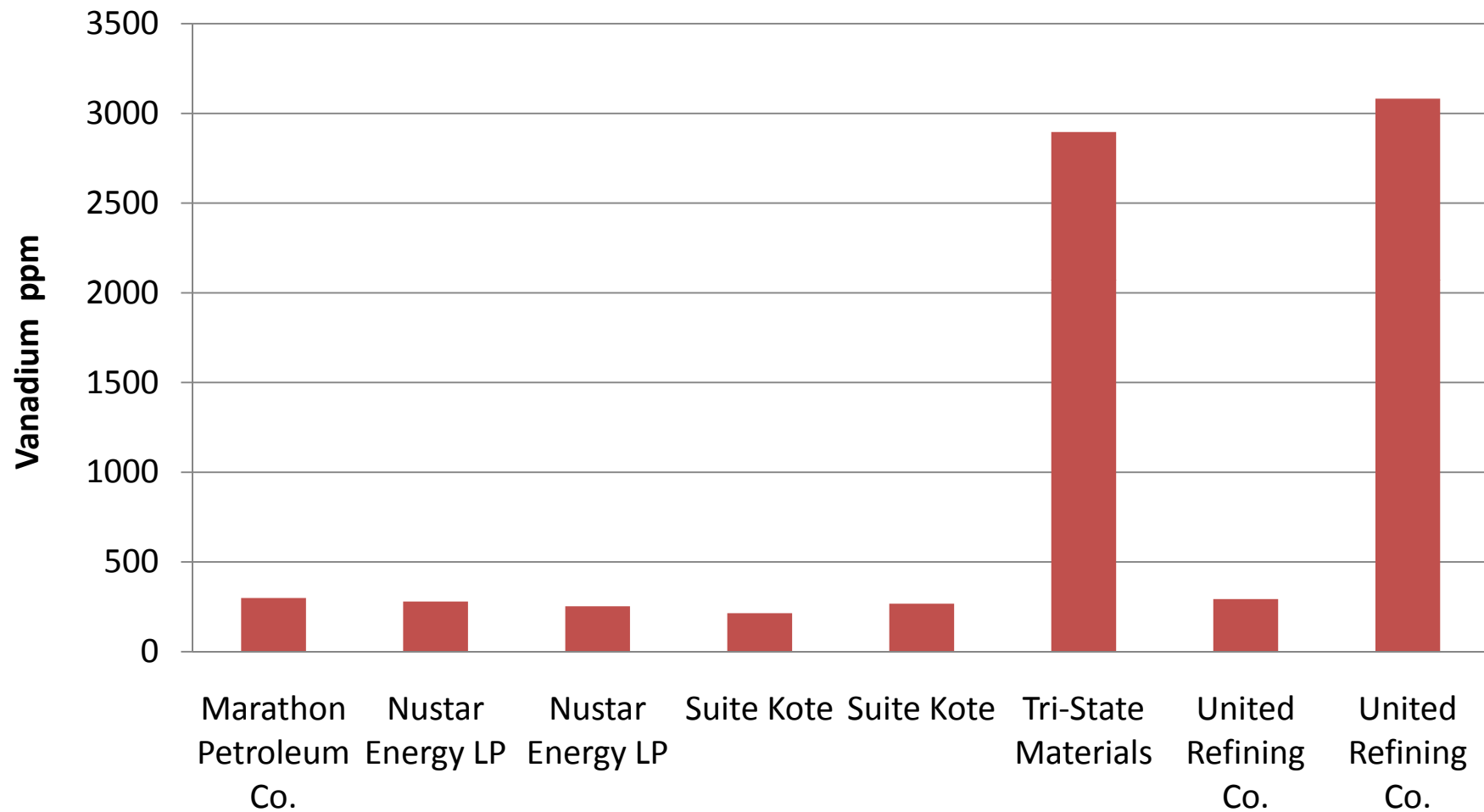
Vanadium Levels in New Hampshire Cores

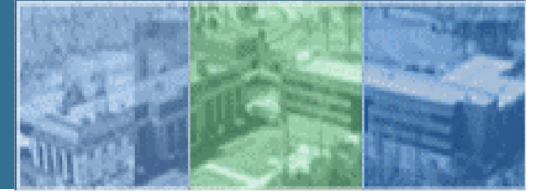


TURNER-FAIRBANK HIGHWAY RESEARCH CENTER



Vanadium Content



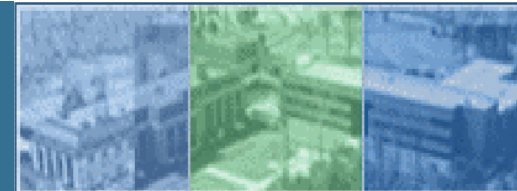


Vanadium Level in Asphalt is Unaffected by:

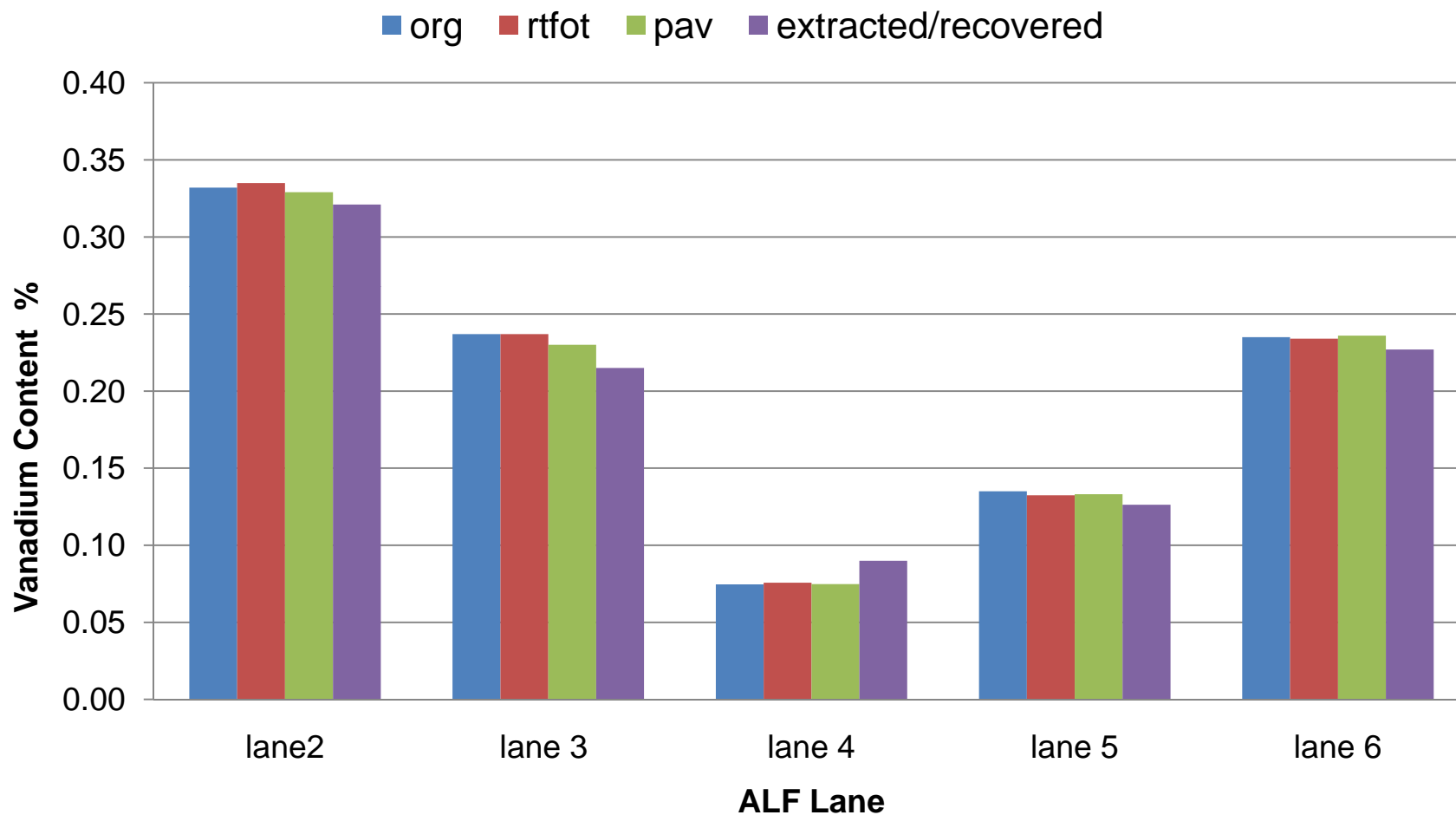
- **Aging**
- **Extraction/Recovery Process**
- **Recovery Solvent**
- **Aggregate type**

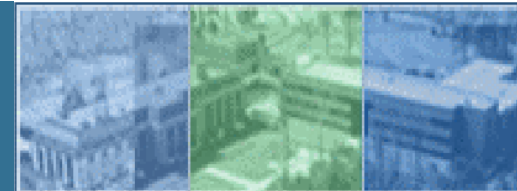


TURNER-FAIRBANK HIGHWAY RESEARCH CENTER



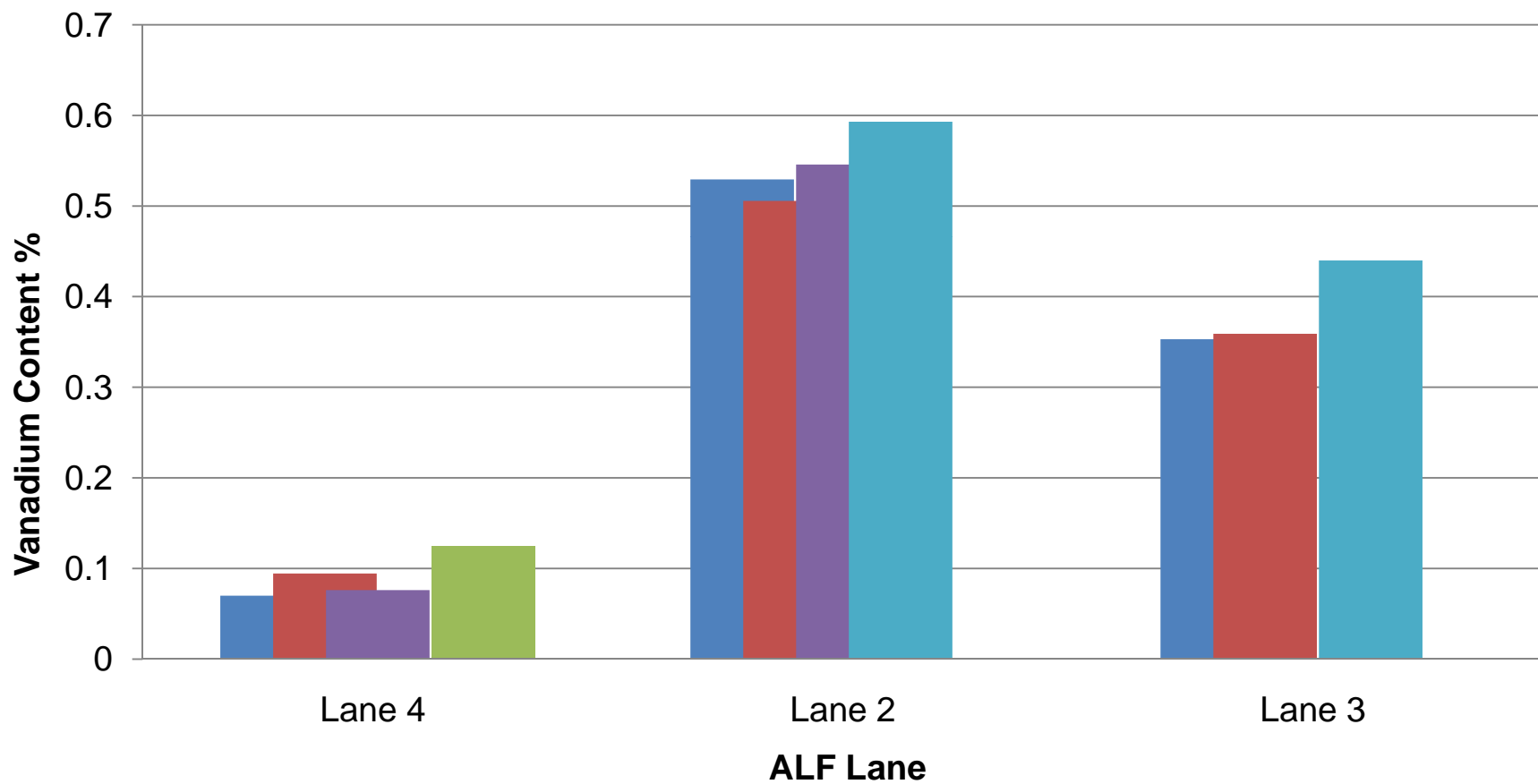
Vanadium Levels of Aged and Extracted/Recovered Binders

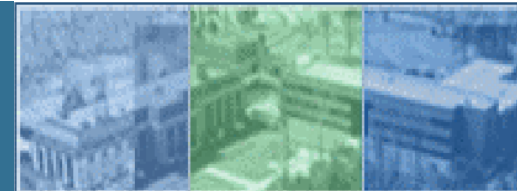




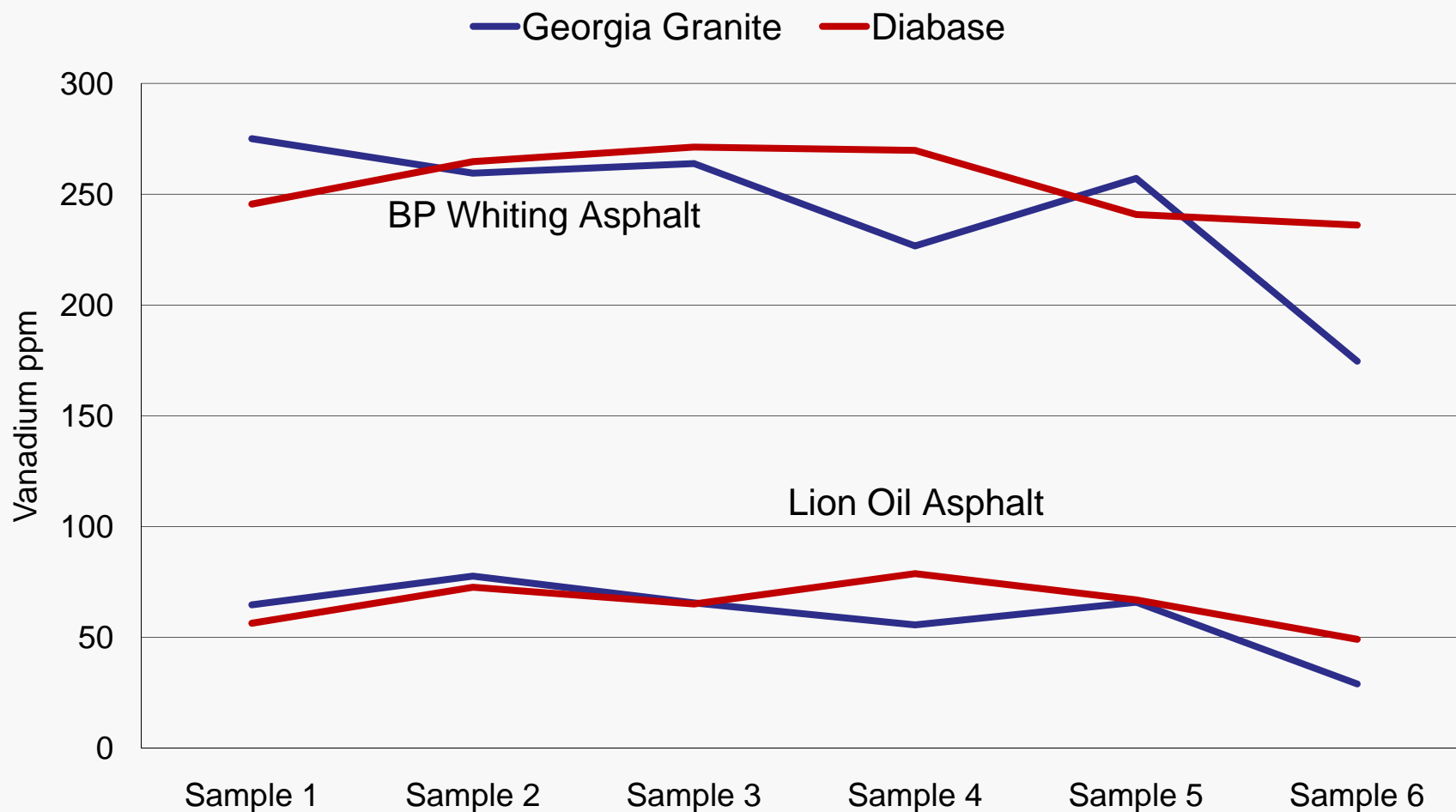
Effect of Recovery Solvent

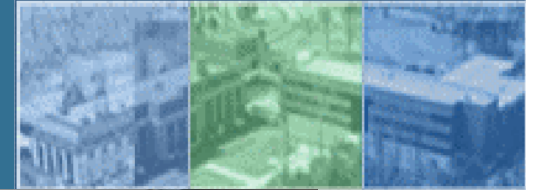
Original TCE THF Tol./EtOH Toluene



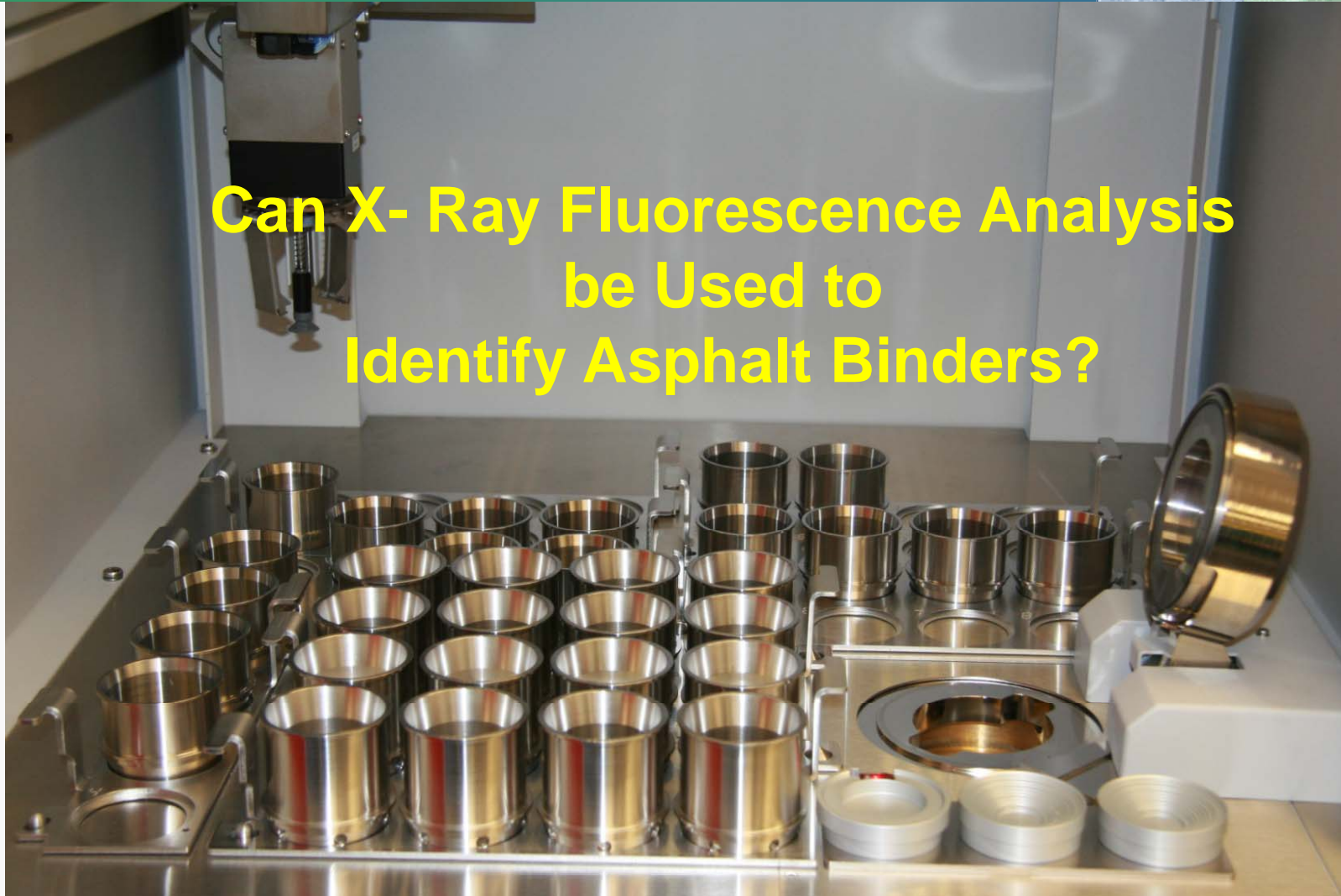


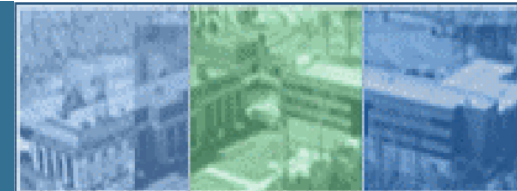
Effect of Aggregate Type on Vanadium Content





**Can X- Ray Fluorescence Analysis
be Used to
Identify Asphalt Binders?**

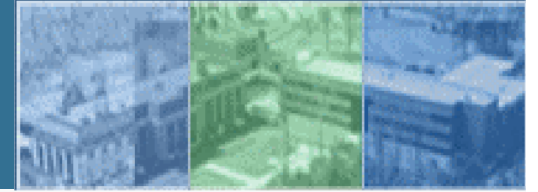




XRF Can Identify:

	P	Ca	K	Fe	Ti	Cu	Br	Pb	Zn	Mo	Sn
PPA Modified Asphalt	X										
Recycled Engine Oil Bottoms	X	X		X					X	X	X
Crumb Rubber Modified Asphalt		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		





SOMETIMES XRF Can :

Distinguish Between Two Asphalts

Indicate An Asphalt Source



TURNER-FAIRBANK HIGHWAY RESEARCH CENTER



Thank you!



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration